What is claimed is:

1. A camera having a distance measuring apparatus which performs distance measuring of a plurality of distance-measuring areas in a photographing plane, comprising:

photo-receiving lenses, each forming an object image;

a photo receiving unit receiving the object images formed by the photo-receiving lenses;

a computing unit computing data about object-to-camera distances on the plurality of distance-measuring areas on the basis of outputs of the photo receiving unit;

a selecting unit selecting any one of the distance-measuring areas in the photographing plane on the basis of the computed results of the computing unit; and

a determining unit determining whether or not an extreme value exists in outputs of the photo receiving unit, in the distance-measuring area selected by the selecting unit,

wherein, when the determining unit determines that the extreme value does not exist, the selecting unit selects a second distance-measuring area different from the initially-selected first distance-measuring area.

2. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the selecting unit selects a

second distance-measuring area having outputs whose inclination orientation is opposite to that of the outputs from the photo receiving unit in the initially-selected first distance-measuring area.

3. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the selecting unit selects a second distance-measuring area having the average value of the outputs in the initially-selected first distance-measuring area.

4. A camera having a distance measuring apparatus which performs distance measuring of a plurality of distance-measuring areas in a photographing plane, comprising:

photo-receiving lenses, each forming an object image;

a photo receiving unit receiving the object images formed by the photo-receiving lenses;

a computing unit computing data about object-to-camera distances of the plurality of distance-measuring areas on the basis of outputs of the photo receiving unit;

a selecting unit selecting any one of the distance-measuring areas in the photographing plane on the basis of the computed results of the computing unit;

a determining unit determining whether or not an extreme value exists in outputs of the photo receiving unit,

in the distance-measuring area selected by the selecting unit, and

a focusing unit adjusting the focus of a photographing optical system,

wherein, when the determining unit determines that the extreme value does not exist, the selecting unit selects a second distance-measuring area having outputs whose inclination orientation is opposite to that of the outputs from the photo receiving unit in the initially-selected first distance-measuring area.

5. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the computing unit computes an average value of the data about camera-to-object distances in the first and second distance-measuring areas selected by the selecting unit.

6. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 5, further comprising a projecting unit projecting a light beam toward an object,

wherein the computing unit computes the average value when the number of projecting times of the projecting unit is not less than a predetermined number of times.

7. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus

according to Claim 6, wherein the photo receiving unit constitutes a pair of line sensors, and

wherein, when a difference in average values of outputs of the pair of line sensors is not less than a predetermined value, the computing unit computes the average values.

8. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the focusing unit adjusts the focus of the photographing optical system on the basis of the average value.

9. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein, in the event where the selecting unit selects the second distance-measuring area, when there is a plurality of outputs, having the opposite inclination orientation, from the photo receiving unit, a distance-measuring area which has outputs having the opposite inclination orientation and which lies closest to the first distance-measuring area is selected.

10. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 4, further comprising a searching unit searching for outputs whose inclination orientation is opposite to that of the outputs from the photo receiving unit in the first distance-measuring area,

wherein the searching unit preferentially searches, from the photo receiving unit, for outputs in a distance-measuring area lying in a direction along which the extreme value exists, when viewed from the first distance-measuring area.

11. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 6, further comprising a brightness-determining unit determining whether or not at least a part of the region in the photographing plane is in a low-level brightness condition, on the basis of outputs from the receiving unit when the projecting unit is in a non-projecting mode.

12. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein, when the brightness determining unit determines that the part of the region is in a low-level brightness condition, the projecting unit projects a light beam toward an object.

13. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein, when the brightness determining unit determines that the part of the region is in a high-level brightness condition, distance measuring is performed with a light beam not being projected by the

projecting unit.

14. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein the projecting unit flashes stroboscopic light toward an object.

15. A camera having a distance measuring apparatus which performs distance measuring of a plurality of distance-measuring areas in a photographing plane, comprising:

photo-receiving lenses, each forming an object image;

a photo receiving unit receiving the object images formed by the photo-receiving lenses;

a computing unit computing data about object-to-camera distances in the plurality of distance-measuring areas on the basis of outputs of the photo receiving unit;

a selecting unit selecting any one of the distance-measuring areas in the photographing plane on the basis of the computed results of the computing unit;

a determining unit determining whether or not an extreme value exists in outputs of the photo receiving unit, in the distance-measuring area selected by the selecting unit, and

a focusing unit adjusting the focus of a photographing optical system,

wherein, when the determining unit determines that the

extreme value does not exist, the selecting unit selects a second distance-measuring area having outputs whose average value is closest to that of the outputs from the photo receiving unit in the initially-selected first distance-measuring area.

16. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the computing unit computes an average value of data about object-to-camera distances in the first and second distance-measuring areas selected by the selecting unit.

17. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 16, further comprising a projecting unit projecting a light beam toward an object,

wherein, when the number of projecting times of the projecting unit is not less than a predetermined number of times, the computing unit computes the average value.

18. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the photo receiving unit constitutes a pair of line sensors, and

wherein, when a difference in average values of outputs of the pair of line sensors is not less than a predetermined value, the computing unit computes the average values.

19. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the focusing unit adjusts the focus of the photographing optical system on the basis of the average value.

20. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein, in the event where the selecting unit selects the second distance-measuring area, when there is a plurality of outputs having the opposite inclination orientation, from the photo receiving unit, a distance-measuring area which has outputs having the opposite inclination orientation and which lies closest to the first distance-measuring area is selected.

21. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 15, further comprising a searching unit searching for outputs whose inclination orientation is opposite to that of the outputs from the photo receiving unit in the first distance-measuring area,

wherein the searching unit preferentially searches, from the photo receiving unit, for outputs in a distance-measuring area lying in a direction along which the extreme value exist, when viewed from the first distance-measuring area.

22. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 17, further comprising a brightness-determining unit determining whether or not at least a part of the region in the photographing plane is in a low-level brightness condition, on the basis of outputs from the receiving unit when the projecting unit is in a non-projecting mode.

23. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein, when the brightness determining unit determines that the part of the region is in a low-level brightness condition, the projecting unit projects a light beam toward an object.

24. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein, when the brightness determining unit determines that the part of the region is in a high-level brightness condition, distance measuring is performed with a light beam not being projected by the projecting unit.

25. The camera having a distance measuring apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the projecting unit flashes stroboscopic light toward an object.